

TOP SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM

19 January 1970

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Briefing Note for DDI on Activities Concerning
Sighting of Military Equipment in Cuba

1. On Saturday afternoon [REDACTED] Chief,
Western Hemisphere Division, OCI was called at home by

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2. [REDACTED] consulted Bruce Clarke, Director OSR, who said no strategic missiles would be loaded two to a truck and who added that his people would be in on Sunday for consultation. The OCI duty officer, [REDACTED] was advised of the report and asked if anyone else along the line of command should be consulted. He said not at this point. [REDACTED] of IRS was then consulted to see about getting an overhead photography mission up on Sunday. He used the story that we were interested in the ship that was due in Mariel on 15 January and which was carrying a cargo of military supplies. There was no mission on Sunday due to weather. The mission was reset for Monday and was flown that day.

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It was believed

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that no report should be issued to the "community" until the more detailed information was at hand. It was also agreed to consider the information as privileged at least until the followup material was in.

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4. [REDACTED] senior Cuban analyst of OCI meanwhile is checking out the description as to any possible likeness to any known missile -- as had [REDACTED] has also requested, in a normal manner, the copies of photos taken of the ship by CONCLANT in order to look at the deck cargo which may have been carrying [REDACTED] (In my view, the "new type of missile" could possibly be such a tank and bears close scrutiny.)

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5. [REDACTED] has, after consultation with the Chief of the Cuba Operations Group and [REDACTED], talked to [REDACTED] Chief of Western Hemisphere Division of DDP, and will inform Herbert Jenner that in requesting a more than normal rapid readout of the Old Head Mission [REDACTED] that he can inform the committee as follows: We have a tenuous report that some new type of military materiel may have been unloaded from the PRIDNEPROVSK on 15 January and then moved in the direction of the military compounds at Santiago de las Vegas just south of Havana.

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6. This memorandum has been shown to [REDACTED] who agrees with its content.

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[REDACTED]
Chief
Western Hemisphere Division
Office of Current Intelligence